

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

- [c1] (Currently Amended) A thermally stable, substantially water-free well fluid comprising:
a polymer;
a glycol compound comprising at least one selected from diethylene glycol methylether, diethylene glycol ethylether, triethylene glycol methylether, and triethylene glycol ethylether; and
a salt.
- [c2] (Cancelled).
- [c3] (Currently Amended) The well fluid of claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose, starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan, scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum derivatives.[[.]]
- [c4] (Original) The well fluid of claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.

- [c5] (Currently Amended) The well fluid of claim 1, wherein the salt comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl₂, CaBr₂, [[and]] ZnBr₂, NaCl, CaCl₂, NH₄Cl, MgCl₂, NaBr, and Na₂S₂O₃.
- [c6] (Currently Amended) A thermally stable, substantially water-free well fluid comprising:
a polymer;
~~a diol compound~~ an alcohol compound comprising at least one selected from glycerol-
1,3-diglycerolate, glycerethoxylate, 1,6-hexandiol, and 1,2-cyclohexandiol; and
a salt.
- [c7] (Cancelled).
- [c8] (Original) The well fluid of claim 6, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose, starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan, scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum derivatives.
- [c9] (Original) The well fluid of claim 6, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.
- [c10] (Currently Amended) The well fluid of claim 6, wherein the salt comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl₂, CaBr₂,[[and]] ZnBr₂, NaCl, CaCl₂, NH₄Cl, MgCl₂, NaBr, and Na₂S₂O₃.

- [c11] (Currently Amended) A method of treating a well comprising:
injecting a thermally stable, substantially water-free well-treating fluid into the well,
wherein the well-treating fluid comprises a polymer, a glycol compound
comprising at least one selected from diethylene glycol methylether, diethylene
glycol ethylether, triethylene glycol methylether, and triethylene glycol
ethylether, and a salt,
- [c12] (Cancelled).
- [c13] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises at least
one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose,
starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan,
scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum
derivatives. ~~The method of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected
from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine),
poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl
acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl
sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl
methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater polymers
of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene,
divinyl amine, 1,4 pentadiene 3 one (divinyl ketone), 1,6 heptadiene 4 one (diallyl
ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate),
acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl-sulfonate,
acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl
lactam.~~
- [c14] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the salt comprises at least one
selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl₂, CaBr₂, ~~[[and]] ZnBr₂~~, NaCl, CaCl₂,
NH₄Cl, MgCl₂, NaBr, and Na₂S₂O₃.
- [c15] (Currently Amended) A method of treating a well comprising:

injecting a thermally stable, substantially water-free well-treating fluid into the well, wherein the well-treating fluid comprises a polymer, ~~a diol compound~~ an alcohol compound comprising at least one selected from glycerol-1,3-diglycerolate, glycerioethoxylate, 1,6-hexandiol, and 1,2-cyclohexandiol, and a salt.

[c16] (Cancelled).

[c17] (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, derivatized cellulose, starch, derivatized starch, whelan gum, whelan gum derivatives, scleroglucan, scleroglucan derivatives, guar gum, guar derivatives, xanthan gum and xanthan gum derivatives.

[c18] (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following co-monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.

[c19] (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the salt comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of KCl, ZnCl₂, CaBr₂, [[an]]d ZnBr₂, NaCl, CaCl₂, NH₄Cl, MgCl₂, NaBr, and Na₂S₂O₃.

[c20] (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol), poly(diallyl amine), poly(acrylamide), poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), poly(acrylonitrile), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl amine), poly(vinyl sulfonate), poly(styryl

sulfonate), poly(acrylate), poly(methyl acrylate), poly(methacrylate), poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(vinylpyrrolidone), poly(vinyl lactam), co-, ter-, and quater-polymers of the following monomers: ethylene, butadiene, isoprene, styrene, divinylbenzene, divinyl amine, 1,4-pentadiene-3-one (divinyl ketone), 1,6-heptadiene-4-one (diallyl ketone), diallyl amine, ethylene glycol, acrylamide, poly(aminomethylpropylsulfonate), acrylonitrile, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl amine, vinyl sulfonate, styryl sulfonate, acrylate, methyl acrylate, methacrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinylpyrrolidone, and vinyl lactam.